

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference H556-02	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
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Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of <u>6</u> sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 10 November 1999 (10.11.99)	Date of completion of this report 09 August 2000 (09.08.2000)
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Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP99/03568

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application:*

- ☐ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
pages 1-3,6-22, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages 4-5, filed with the letter of 10 April 2000 (10.04.2000)
- ☒ the claims:
pages 2-9,11-13,15-22, as originally filed
pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages 1,10,14,23-26, filed with the letter of 10 April 2000 (10.04.2000)
- ☒ the drawings:
pages 1-12, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages _____, as originally filed
pages _____, filed with the demand
pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP99/03568

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-13,17-26	YES
	Claims	14-16	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	6-7,17-22	YES
	Claims	1-5,8-16,23-26	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-26	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

The subject matter of claims 14-16 does not appear to be novel. Document 1 [JP, 9-327789, A (Senju Metal Industry Co., Ltd.; Matsushita Electric Industrial Co, Ltd.; Tatsuta Electric Wire and Cable Co., Ltd.), 22 December, 1997 (22.12.97); [0001]-[0007], [0016]-[0035]; (Family: none)] cited in the ISR discloses the solder paste disclosed in claims 14-16 that contains a solder powder and a flux, where the solder powder contains Sn and Zn and has an organic acid salt attached to its surface, and the flux contains 0.5~10 wt% of sorbitan fatty acid ester – which is a nonionic surfactant – and up to 10 wt% of an activator.

The subject matter of claims 1-5, 8-9, 10-13 and 23-26 does not appear to involve an inventive step in view of document 1 and document 2 [JP, 1-157793, A (Showa Denko K.K.), 21 June, 1989 (21.06.89); page 1, lower left column, line 4 to page 2, lower right column, line 14; (Family: none)] cited in the ISR. The inventions of both documents 1 and 2 handle the same technical problem, namely the suppression of changes in the solder paste over time. It is thus considered that, in the case of the solder paste disclosed in document 1 that contains a solder powder and a flux, where the solder powder contains Sn, Zn and Bi and has its surface covered with a thin film of a fatty acid salt, and the flux contains 0.5~10 wt% of sorbitan fatty acid ester – which is a nonionic surfactant – and up to 10 wt% of an activator, it would have been easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of applying the means disclosed in document 2 whereby a fatty acid salt such as a lauric acid salt containing a transition metal is attached to the surface of the solder powder that makes up the solder paste before mixing with the flux, this being in order to solve the aforementioned technical problem that is common to documents 1 and 2.

The subject matter of claims 6-7 is considered to involve an inventive step when compared with the documents cited in the ISR. The idea of using the copper salt of an organic acid as the organic acid salt that is attached to the surface of the solder powder containing Sn and Zn before mixing with the flux is not disclosed in any of the documents cited in the ISR. Moreover, it is considered that using the copper salt of an organic acid in this way results in the inventions disclosed in claims 6 and 7 exhibiting an advantageous effect whereby the soldering characteristics are improved.

The subject matter of claims 17-22 is considered to involve an inventive step when compared with the documents cited in the ISR. The idea of attaching the organic acid salt to the surface of the solder powder containing Sn and Zn by making a saturated solution of the organic acid salt come into contact with the solder powder is not disclosed in any of the documents cited in the ISR. Moreover, this idea is neither a well-known technical matter nor common general technical knowledge, and so it is considered that it would not be easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of it.

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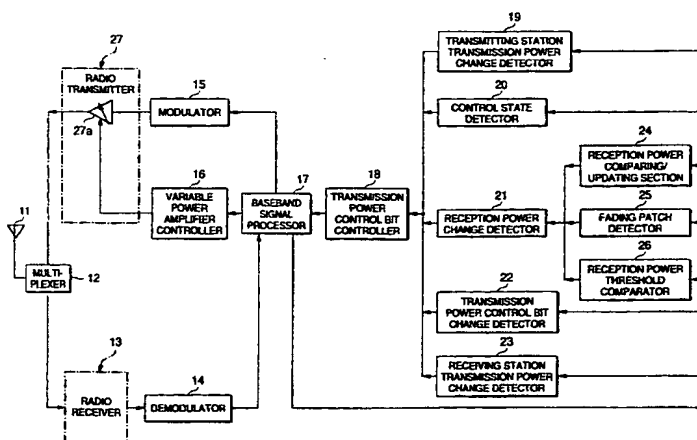
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS TRANSMISSION POWER CONTROL



(57) Abstract: In controlling transmission power of a local station by using a transmission power control bit transmitted from a distant station (receiving station) to the local station (transmitting station), a communication state is detected by using at least one of a transmitting station transmission power change detector (19), a control state detector (20), reception power change detector (21), a transmission power control bit change detector (22), and a receiving station transmission power change detector (23), based on an output from a baseband signal processor (17). The transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit is changed based on the detection results of the detectors by a transmission power control bit controller (18). A variable power amplifier controller (16) controls a variable amplifier (27a) based on the transmission power control bit and the transmission power control range and variably controls the transmission power via an antenna (11).

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DESCRIPTION

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS TRANSMISSION POWER CONTROL

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a radio communications apparatus used for a mobile communications system, etc. including
10 a portable telephone set, etc. which performs mobile communications, a method for the radio communications apparatus to control transmission power between a mobile station and a base station, etc. in the mobile communications system, and a
15 computer-readable recording medium which stores the transmission power control method.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In a mobile communications system of the Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) using the spread spectrum technology, a single frequency bandwidth is shared by a plurality of users. Thus
20 a so-called problem of strong-field channel/weak-field channel may easily arise that a high-power signal masks a low-power signal, resulting in degradation of the line quality of a local station caused by a signal from another station appearing as an interference wave. In such a mobile communications system, a

transmission power control technology has been studied for reducing interference between communications channels to upgrade the frequency use efficiency, by controlling the transmission power of a local station depending on the distance between a base station and a mobile station in transmitting information and by
5 holding constant the power of a signal arriving at the base station.

As a transmission power control system, in particular, there is known a transmission power control system via a closed loop to respond to an interference signal which instantaneously
10 varies. Japanese patent publication H08-032513 discloses an example wherein transmission power control is made according to the control amount corresponding to a preset number of successive reception times when the same transmission power control bit is successively received in order to respond to a sudden variation
15 in the reception power on a communication channel. The CDMA system requires, in particular, a wide-dynamic-range (for example 70 to 80dB), high-linearity transmission power control. The wide-band CDMA (W-CDMA) system requires a high accuracy of transmission power in high-power operation, thus a higher-accuracy transmission
20 power control is required.

Fig. 4 is a flowchart of an example of a conventional transmission power control system via a closed loop. In case a base station and a mobile station communicate with each other, the base station determines a transmission power control bit based

on the reception power of a received wave or desired wave from the mobile station (S11), inserts the transmission power control bit in a transmission signal, and transmits this signal to the mobile station. The mobile station receives the signal from the base station, extracts the transmission power control bit from the received signal (S15) and controls the transmission power of the mobile station according to the instruction in the transmission power control bit (S16).

Similarly, the mobile station determines a transmission power control bit based on the reception power of a received wave or desired wave from the base station (S14), inserts the transmission power control bit in a transmission signal, and transmits this signal to the base station. The base station receives the signal from the mobile station, extracts the transmission power control bit from the received signal (S12) and controls the transmission power of the base station according to the instruction in the transmission power control bit (S13).

By performing such transmission power control, reception power at the base station and the mobile station can be held substantially constant, irrespective of the location of the mobile station.

In order to perform high-accuracy transmission power control by way of the aforementioned conventional transmission power control method, the transmission power control range

corresponding to the value of the transmission power control bit (one unit) must be made small. There is, however, a problem that a smaller transmission power control range cannot respond to a sudden variation in reception power, resulting in lower accuracy of transmission power control.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

The invention solves such problems in the conventional technology. The invention aims at providing radio communications apparatus wherein accuracy of transmission power control can be upgraded by changing the transmission power control range depending on the communication state and thus low-power, compact-size apparatus can be provided, a transmission power controlling method for the radio communications apparatus, and a computer-readable recording medium which stores the transmission power control method.

To attain the aforementioned purpose, as mentioned in the first aspect of the invention, a radio communications apparatus according to the invention is a radio communications apparatus having a transmission power control feature for controlling the transmission power of a local station by using the transmission power control bit transmitted from a distant station to the local station, wherein the apparatus comprises: communication state detecting means for detecting the communication state based on the reception power of a received signal transmitted from the

distant station; and transmission power control range changing means for changing the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit based on the detected communication state.

5 Preferably, as mentioned in the second through sixth aspect of the invention, the communication state detecting means has at least one of the following: reception power change detecting means for detecting a change in reception power in a local station; distant station transmission power change detecting means for
10 detecting a change in transmission power in a distant station; control state detecting means for detecting the control state of the local station; local station transmission power change detecting means for detecting a change in transmission power in the local station; and transmission power control bit change
15 detecting means for detecting a change in the transmission power control bit.

 Preferably, as mentioned in the seventh through ninth aspect of the invention, the reception power change detecting means has at least one of the following: reception power comparing means
20 for comparing a previous reception power with a current reception power; fading pitch detecting means for detecting the fading pitch of reception power; and reception power threshold comparing means for comparing the reception power with a predetermined threshold.

 As mentioned in the tenth aspect of the invention, a

transmission power control method according to the invention is a method for controlling transmission power of a local station by using a transmission power control bit transmitted from a distant station to the local station, wherein the method has: a
5 communication state detecting step for detecting the communication state based on the reception power of a received signal from the distant station; and transmission power control range changing step for changing the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit based
10 on the detected communication state.

Preferably, as mentioned in the eleventh aspect of the invention, the communication state detecting step has a reception power change detecting step for detecting a change in reception power in a local station, and the transmission power control range
15 changing step changes the transmission power control range depending on the detected change in the reception power.

Alternatively, as mentioned in the twelfth aspect of the invention, the communication state detecting step has a distant station transmission power change detecting step for detecting
20 a change in transmission power in a distant station and a reception power change detecting step for detecting a change in reception power in a local station, and the transmission power control range changing step changes the transmission power control range depending on the detected change in transmission power in the

distant station and the detected change in reception power in the local station.

Alternatively, as mentioned in the thirteenth aspect of the invention, the communication state detecting step has a control
5 state detecting step for detecting the control state of a local station, and the transmission power control range changing step changes the transmission power control range depending on the detected control state.

Alternatively, as mentioned in the fourteenth aspect of the
10 invention, the communication state detecting step has a local station transmission power change detecting step for detecting a change in transmission power in a local station and a transmission power control bit change detecting step for detecting a change in the transmission power control bit, and the
15 transmission power control range changing step changes the transmission power control range depending on the detected change in transmission power in the local station and the detected change in the transmission power control bit.

Preferably, as mentioned in the fifteenth aspect of the
20 invention, the reception power change detecting step has a reception power comparing step for comparing a previous reception power with a current reception power, and a change in reception power is detected based on the comparison results of the reception power comparing step.

Alternatively, as mentioned in the sixteenth aspect of the invention, the reception power change detecting step has a fading pitch detecting step for detecting the fading pitch of reception power, and a change in reception power is detected based on the
5 detected fading pitch.

Alternatively, as mentioned in the seventeenth aspect of the invention, the reception power change detecting step has a reception power comparing step for comparing a previous reception power with a current reception power and a fading pitch detecting
10 step for detecting the fading pitch of reception power, and a change in reception power is detected based on the comparison results of the reception power comparing step and the detected fading pitch.

Alternatively, as mentioned in the eighteenth aspect of the invention, the reception power change detecting step has a
15 reception power threshold comparing step for comparing the reception power with a predetermined threshold, and a change in reception power is detected based on the comparison results of the reception power threshold comparing step

20 As mentioned in the nineteenth aspect of the invention, a computer-readable recording medium according to the invention is stored as a program for executing the transmission power control method for the radio communications apparatus according to the tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth,

sixteenth, seventeenth or eighteenth aspect of the invention.

According to the invention, when transmission power of a local station is controlled by using the transmission power control bit transmitted from a distant station to the local station, the communication state is detected based on the reception power of a signal transmitted from the distant station and the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit is changed based on the detected communication state. The transmission power control range is controlled based on at least one of a change in reception power in the local station, a change in transmission power in a distant station, the control state of the local station, a change in transmission power in the local station, and a change in the transmission power control bit.

When a change in reception power is detected, the change in reception power is detected based on at least one of the comparison results of stored previous (previously controlled) reception power and current (currently controlled) reception power, a fading pitch of reception power, and the comparison results of reception power and a predetermined threshold. When a change in transmission power in a local station or a distant station is detected, the change in transmission power in a local station or a distant station is detected based on the comparison results of stored previous transmission power and current transmission power.

When a change in the transmission power control bit is detected, the change in the transmission power control bit is detected based on the comparison results of a stored previous transmission power control bit and the current transmission power control bit.

5 The invention thus allows response to a sudden change in reception power, control of response to predetermined power in a short period and suppression of interference waves, reducing errors in transmission power control in any communication state.

10 This upgrades accuracy of transmission power control. The upgrading of accuracy of transmission power control can minimize the required transmission power and realizes low-power, compact-size apparatus.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

15 Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing a configuration of the main section of radio communications apparatus according to one embodiment of the invention.

 Fig. 2 is a flow chart showing the procedure for the transmission power control method according to one embodiment of the invention.

20 Fig. 3 is a flow chart showing the procedure for the transmission power control method according to one embodiment of the invention.

 Fig. 4 is a flow chart showing an example of the procedure for the transmission power control method via a conventional

closed loop.

PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

Embodiments according to the invention will be detailed with reference to the drawings.

5 Fig. 1 is a block diagram of the main section of radio communications apparatus according to one embodiment of the invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are flowcharts showing the transmission power control method according to one embodiment of the invention.

Radio communications apparatus according to this embodiment
10 is provided, for example, in a mobile communications device composing a base station or a mobile station of a cellular communications system, and amplifies the power of a signal containing transmission information to transmit the resulting signal to a distant party. A transmission power control method
15 described herein is preferable in a case where high-accuracy transmission power control is required while high linearity is being maintained, such as, in particular, a base station and a mobile terminal such as a mobile telephone set in a CDMA mobile communication system. This embodiment is not limited to a mobile
20 communications device but applicable to other radio communications apparatus which requires similar transmission power control as required.

This example shows only a configuration associated with transmission power control of radio communications apparatus.

Any configuration associated with other processing such as circuits and input keys associated with diffusion, inverse diffusion, encoding, decoding, speech transmitting, speech receiving, and control is not shown.

5 Radio communications apparatus has an antenna 11 for transmitting/receiving radio signals and a multiplexer 12 for isolating a transmission signal from a received signal. The radio communications apparatus has, as a receiving system: a radio receiver 13 comprising a high-frequency amplifier circuit, a
10 local oscillator circuit, and an IF signal amplifier circuit, etc. for high-frequency amplifying the received signal and outputting an intermediate frequency (IF) signal converted to an IF band (intermediate frequency band); a demodulator 14 for converting a received signal to a baseband signal; and a baseband signal
15 processor 17 for processing and decoding a received baseband signal.

 The radio communications apparatus has, as a transmission system: the baseband signal processor 17 for processing and encoding a baseband signal to be transmitted; a modulator 15 for
20 modulating a transmission signal to an IF signal; and a radio transmitter 27 for amplifying power of a transmission signal and frequency-converting the transmission signal to an RF band (radio frequency band). The radio transmitter 27 is equipped with a variable power amplifier 27a. The radio transmitter 27 is also

equipped with a frequency converter circuit for conversion to an RF band and a transmitter amplifier for output power amplification and so on, which are not shown.

The radio communications apparatus has, as a transmission
5 power control system, the baseband signal processor 17 and the
variable power amplifier 27a. The radio communications
apparatus has: a variable power amplifier controller 16 for
performing amplifier gain control of the variable power amplifier
27a to execute transmission power control; and a transmission
10 power control bit controller 18 as transmission power control
range change means for changing the transmission power control
range of a transmission power control bit, based on each of the
output results from a transmitting station transmission power
change detector 19 mentioned later through a receiving station
15 transmission power change detector 23.

The radio communications apparatus has, as a component
corresponding to communication state detecting means for
generating an input signal to the transmission power control bit
controller 18; a transmitting station transmission power change
20 detector 19 as local station transmission power change detecting
means for detecting a change in a transmitting station or a local
station, based on an output signal from the baseband signal
processor 17; a control state detector 20 as control state
detecting means for detecting the control state of a local

station; a reception power change detector 21 as reception power change detecting means for detecting a change in reception power in a local station; a transmission power control bit change detector 22 as transmission power control bit change detecting means for detecting a change in the transmission power control bit; and a receiving station transmission power change detector 23 as distant station transmission power change means for detecting a change in transmission power in a receiving station or a distant station.

Moreover, the radio communications apparatus has, as a component for generating an input signal to the reception power change detector 21: a reception power comparing/updating section 24 as reception power comparing means for comparing reception power in a local station with a stored previous power value and updating the stored power value; a fading pitch detector 25 as fading pitch detecting means for detecting the level variation cycle of a received signal which accompanies fading in the local station; and a reception power threshold comparator 26 as reception power threshold comparing means for comparing reception power in a local station with a predetermined threshold.

In this embodiment, the transmission power control range corresponding to the value of the transmission power control bit (one unit) for power control to be appended to a transmitted signal is changed. This is to upgrade the transmission power control

accuracy by performing transmission power control based on the transmission power control range to reflect the communication state on the transmitting side and the receiving side which depends on such factors as a change in communications.

5 In case apparatus shown in Fig. 1 is a mobile station, the baseband signal processor 17 determines a transmission power control bit based on the reception power of a received wave (desired wave) from a base station, and inserts the transmission power control bit in a transmission signal. The end signal is
10 modulated and frequency-converted to an IF band by the modulator 15, frequency-converted to an RF band by a radio transmitter 27, then transmitted to the base station from the antenna 11 via the multiplexer 12.

A signal transmitted from the base station is received by
15 the antenna 11. The received signal is input to the radio receiver 13 via the multiplexer 12. The received signal is frequency-converted to an IF band by the radio receiver 13, converted to a baseband signal by the demodulator 14, and input to the baseband signal processor 17 for necessary processing. Signals
20 representing the transmission power control bit and reception power level, etc. are then generated.

The transmitting station transmission power change detector 19 detects a change in transmission power in a mobile station or a local station (transmitting station) based on an output signal

from the baseband signal processor 17. The control state detector 20 detects the control state of the local station based on an output signal from the baseband signal processor 17. The transmission power control bit change detector 22 detects a change in the transmission power control bit based on an output signal from the baseband signal processor 17. The receiving station transmission power change detector 23 detects a change in transmission power in a base station or a distant station (receiving station) based on an output signal from the baseband signal processor 17.

Moreover, the reception power comparing/updating section 24 obtains a change in reception power in a mobile station by comparing reception power with stored previous power value and updates the stored power value based on an output signal from the baseband signal processor 17. The fading pitch detector 25 detects the level variation cycle of a received signal which accompanies fading in a mobile station based on an output signal from the baseband signal processor 17. The reception power threshold comparator 26 obtains a change in reception power relative to a predetermined threshold in a mobile station by comparing reception power with the predetermined threshold based on an output signal from the baseband signal processor 17. The reception power change detector 21 detects a change in reception power from each of the output results of the reception power

comparing/updating section 24, fading pitch detector 25, and reception power threshold comparator 26.

Although the fading pitch detector 25 is generally provided in a mobile communications device such as a cellular portable telephone set, it can be of any configuration provided the level variation cycle of a received signal which accompanies fading can be detected. Detection of the fading can be used to determine the traveling speed of a mobile station for proper control of reception a signal from the base station of an adjacent cell in the case of a handover.

The transmission power control bit controller 18 changes the transmission power control range of the transmission power control bit, based on each of the output results from the transmitting station transmission power change detector 19 through the receiving station transmission power change detector 23 and inputs the resulting signal to the power amplifier controller 16 via the baseband signal processor 17. The variable power amplifier controller 16 controls transmission power to be output from the antenna 11 by performing amplifier gain control of the variable power amplifier 27a based on the transmission power control bit and the changed transmission power control range.

Next, the procedure for the transmission power control method according to the invention will be detailed based on Fig.

2 and Fig. 3.

In this embodiment, the communication state of each of the receiving station and the transmitting station is detected based on the information (1) through (5) below. The transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit is changed according to the communication state.

- (1) Change in reception power in the receiving station
- (2) Change in transmission power in the transmitting station
- (3) Control state in the reception station
- 10 (4) Change in transmission power in the receiving station
- (5) Change in the transmission power control bit

- (1) Change in reception power in the receiving station is obtained based on detection results of (a) through (c) below.
- (a) Change of the current reception power relative to the reception power under the previous control
 - 15 (b) Fading pitch
 - (c) Difference of the current reception power relative to the predetermined threshold

At least one of the elements (1) through (5) can be arbitrarily combined with at least one of the elements (a) through (c) and used in the procedure for changing the transmission power control range of the transmission power control bit.

Referring to Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, in case a base station and a mobile station communicate with each other, the base station

determines a transmission power control bit based on the reception power of a received wave or desired wave from the mobile station (S101), changes the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit (S112),
5 inserts the transmission power control bit in a transmission signal, and transmits this signal to the mobile station. The mobile station receives the signal from the base station, extracts the transmission power control bit from the received signal (S206) and controls the transmission power of the mobile station
10 according to the instruction in the transmission power control bit (S213).

Next, the mobile station compares reception power stored by the mobile station with the current reception power (S205). The mobile station changes the reception power stored by the mobile
15 station to the current value (S207), detects a change in reception power based on the comparison results (S210), and changes the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit (S212).

In the processing of step S210, the ratio of change in
20 reception power in the mobile station is detected from the magnitude of the absolute value of comparison results. Thus, the greater the ratio of change in reception power, the more accurate response to a sudden change in reception power is realized by extending the transmission power control range of the

transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212, unlike a conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the transmission power control accuracy.

5 Next, the mobile station detects the fading pitch of reception power (S204) and detects a change in reception power based on the detection results of the fading pitch (S210). The mobile station then changes the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit depending on
10 the detected change in reception power (S212).

 In the processing of step S210, the speed of change in reception power in the mobile station is detected from the fading pitch. Thus, same as the foregoing case, the greater the speed of change in reception power, the more accurate response to a
15 sudden change in reception power is realized by extending the transmission power control range of the transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212, compared with a conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the transmission power control accuracy.

20 In the processing of step S210, the speed of change and the ratio of change in reception power in the mobile station are detected from the fading pitch detected in step S204 and the magnitude of the absolute value of reception power comparison results detected in step S205. Thus the traveling status of a

local station can be assumed from the speed of change and the ratio of change in reception power detected. For example, in case the speed of change is reception power is low and the ratio of change in reception power is large, it can be assumed that the local station is traveling at a low speed in an area where the local station is in the shadow of buildings, etc. in terms of radio waves.

Here, in case reception power decreases, the mobile station is assumed to be traveling into an area where incoming radio waves are weakened by buildings. By reducing the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212, a sudden increase in transmission power of the base station can be suppressed. As a result, interference by a wave transmitted from the base station to another mobile station can be suppressed, unlike the conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the transmission power control accuracy. Meanwhile, in case reception power increases, the mobile station is assumed to be traveling out of an area where incoming radio waves are weakened by buildings. By extending the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212, a sudden decrease in the transmission power of the base station can be realized. As a result, same as the foregoing case, interference by a wave transmitted from the base station to another mobile station can be suppressed, unlike

the conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the transmission power control accuracy.

Next, the mobile station compares reception power with a predetermined threshold (S203). The mobile station detects a
5 change in reception power based on the comparison results (S210) and changes the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit (S212).

In the processing of step S210, the mobile station can assume its location based on the comparison results of reception power
10 detected in step S203 and the ratio of the desired wave received signal power to the interference wave power (SIR: Signal-to-Interference Power Ratio). For example, in case reception power is smaller than the predetermined threshold and SIR is small, the mobile station is assumed to be in a weak electric field (area
15 with weak receiving field intensity) such as an area shadowed by buildings. On the other hand, in case reception power is greater than the predetermined threshold SIR is small, the mobile station is assumed to be in a strong electric field (area with strong receiving field intensity and an interference).

20 Thus, in case the local station is in a weak electric field, a sudden increase in transmission power of the base station can be suppressed by reducing the transmission power control range of the transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212 and initiating the handover of an ongoing call to another

base station. As a result, interference by a wave transmitted from the base station to another mobile station can be suppressed, unlike the conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the transmission power control accuracy. In case the local station is affected by a strong field interference, a sudden increase in transmission power of the base station can be suppressed by reducing the transmission power control range of the transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212. As a result, same as the foregoing case, interference by a wave transmitted from the base station to another mobile station can be suppressed, unlike the conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the transmission power control accuracy.

Next, the mobile station detects the local control state (S202) and changes the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit based on the detection results (S212). In the processing of step S202, the mobile station can detect the control state of the local station transmission power. Thus, in starting the transmission power control, response to predetermined power in a short period is realized by extending the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212, unlike a conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the

transmission power control accuracy.

Next, the mobile station compares distant station transmission power under the previous control stored by the mobile station with distant station transmission power under the current control (S214). The mobile station updates the value of distant station transmission power under the previous control to the current value (S215), and detects a change in transmission power of the base station based on the comparison results (S216). The mobile station changes the transmission power control range of the transmission power control bit based on the detected change in the transmission power of the base station and the change in reception power detected in step S210 (S212).

In the processing of step S212, the mobile station can assume its traveling status based on the change in the transmission power of the base station and the change in the local station reception power. For example, in case transmission power of the base station increases and local station reception power decreases, the mobile station is assumed to be traveling into a weak electric field such as an area shadowed by buildings. On the other hand, in case transmission power of the base station decreases and the local station reception power increases, the mobile station is assumed to be traveling into a strong electric field such as an area out of a shadow of buildings.

Thus, in case the local station is traveling into a weak

electric field, a sudden increase in transmission power of the base station can be suppressed by reducing the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212 and initiating the handover of an ongoing call to another base station. As a result, interference by a wave transmitted from the base station to another mobile station can be suppressed, unlike the conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the transmission power control accuracy. In case the local station is traveling into a strong field, a sudden decrease in transmission power of the base station can be realized by extending the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212.

As a result, same as the foregoing case, interference by a wave transmitted from the base station to another mobile station can be suppressed, unlike the conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the transmission power control accuracy.

Next, the mobile station updates the distant station transmission power to the distant station under the current control based on the transmission power control bit determined in step S201 (S217). The mobile station updates the local station transmission power based on the transmission power control bit extracted in step S206 (S218). Next, the mobile station compares

local station transmission power under the previous control stored by the mobile station with local station transmission power under the current control (S219), updates the stored local station transmission power under the previous control to the current value
5 (S220), and detects a change in transmission power of the local station based on the comparison results (S221).

Next, the mobile station compares transmission power control bit stored by the mobile station with the current transmission power control bit (S208), updates the stored transmission power
10 control bit (S209), and detects a change in the transmission power control bit based on the comparison results (S211).

Next, the mobile station changes the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit based on the change in transmission power of the local station
15 detected in step S221 and the change in the transmission power control bit detected in step S211 (S212).

In the processing of step S212, the mobile station can assume its location based on the change in the transmission power of the mobile station and the change in the transmission power control
20 bit. For example, in case transmission power of the mobile station increases and the transmission power control bit increases, the mobile station is assumed to be in a weak electric field such as an area shadowed by buildings. On the other hand, in case transmission power of the mobile station decreases and

the transmission power control bit decreases, the mobile station is assumed to be in a strong electric field.

Thus, in case the local station is in a weak electric field, a sudden increase in transmission power of the base station can be suppressed by reducing the transmission power control range corresponding the transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212 and initiating the handover of an ongoing call to another base station. As a result, interference by a wave transmitted from the base station to another mobile station can be suppressed, unlike the conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the transmission power control accuracy. In case the local station is traveling into a strong field, a sudden decrease in transmission power of the base station can be realized by extending the transmission power control range of the transmission power control bit in the processing of step S212.

As a result, interference by a wave transmitted from the base station to another mobile station can be suppressed, unlike the conventional method using a fixed transmission power control range. This upgrades the transmission power control accuracy.

By changing the transmission power control range via the aforementioned processing, response to a sudden change in reception power, response to a desired power in a short period and suppression of interference waves are made possible and errors

in transmission power control can be reduced in any communication state. This upgrades accuracy of transmission power control.

Next, the mobile station determines the transmission power control bit based on the reception power of a received wave or
5 desired wave from the base station (S201), inserts the transmission power control bit instructing the transmission power control range changed in step S212 in a transmission signal, and transmits this signal to the base station. The base station receives the signal from the mobile station, extracts the
10 transmission power control bit from the received signal (S106) and controls the transmission power of the base station according to the instruction in the transmission power control bit (S113).

Processing of step S102 through S121 is the same as the aforementioned step S202 through S221 for a mobile station.

15 The processing allows, same as the aforementioned mobile station, response to a sudden change in reception power, response to a desired power in a short period and suppression of interference waves are made possible and errors in transmission power control can be reduced in any communication state. This upgrades accuracy
20 of transmission power control.

As mentioned earlier, this embodiment allows easy response to a sudden change in reception power, etc. while high-accuracy transmission power control is being made, by changing the transmission power control range corresponding to the

transmission power control bit depending on the communication state, thus ensuring a high-accuracy transmission power control in any communication state. This upgrades the overall accuracy of transmission power control. The upgrading of accuracy of transmission power control in a base station and a mobile station can minimize the required transmission power and realizes low-power, compact-size apparatus.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

As mentioned above, according to the invention, when transmission power of a local station is controlled by using the transmission power control bit transmitted from a distant station to the local station, the communication state is detected based on the reception power of a signal transmitted from the distant station. By changing the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit based on the detected communication state, to be more precise, at least one of a change in reception power in the local station, a change in transmission power in a distant station, the control state of the local station, a change in transmission power in the local station, and a change in the transmission power control bit, the accuracy of transmission power control can be upgraded. This also can realize low-power, compact-size apparatus.

CLAIMS

1. Radio communications apparatus having a transmission power control feature for controlling the transmission power of a local station by using the transmission power control bit transmitted from a distant station to the local station, comprising:

communication state detector which detects the communication state based on the reception power of a received signal transmitted from the distant station; and

10 transmission power control range changer which changes the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit based on the detected communication state.

2. The radio communications apparatus according to claim 15 1, wherein said communication state detector has a reception power change detector which detects a change in reception power in a local station.

3. The radio communications apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said communication state detector has a distant station transmission power change detector which detects a change in 20 transmission power in a distant station.

4. The radio communications apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said communication state detector has a control state detector which detects the control state of the local station.

5. The radio communications apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said communication state detector has a local station transmission power change detector which detects a change in transmission power in the local station.

5 6. The radio communications apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said communication state detector has a transmission power control bit change detector which detects a change in said transmission power control bit.

10 7. The radio communications apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said reception power change detector has a reception power comparator which compares a previous reception power with a current reception power.

8. The radio communications apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said reception power change detector has a fading pitch detector which detects the fading pitch of reception power

9. The radio communications apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said reception power change detector has a reception power threshold comparator which compares the reception power with a predetermined threshold.

20 10. A transmission power control method for radio communications apparatus for controlling transmission power of a local station by using a transmission power control bit transmitted from a distant station to the local station, comprising:

a communication state detecting step which detects the communication state based on the reception power of a received signal transmitted from the distant station; and

transmission power control range changing step which changes
5 the transmission power control range corresponding to the transmission power control bit based on the detected communication state.

11. The transmission power control method for radio communications apparatus according to claim 10,

10 wherein said communication state detecting step has a reception power change detecting step which detects a change in reception power in a local station,

wherein said transmission power control range changing step changes the transmission power control range depending on the
15 detected change in reception power.

12. The transmission power control method for radio communications apparatus according to claim 10,

wherein said communication state detecting step has a distant station transmission power change detecting step which
20 detects a change in transmission power in a distant station and a reception power change detecting step which detects a change in reception power in a local station,

wherein said transmission power control range changing step changes the transmission power control range depending on the

detected change in transmission power in the distant station and the detected change in reception power in the local station.

13. The transmission power control method for radio communications apparatus according to claim 10,

5 wherein said communication state detecting step has a control state detecting step which detects the control state of a local station,

 wherein said transmission power control range changing step changes the transmission power control range depending on the
10 detected control state.

14. A transmission power control method for radio communications apparatus according to claim 10,

 wherein said communication state detecting step has a local station transmission power change detecting step which detects
15 a change in transmission power in a local station and a transmission power control bit change detecting step which detects a change in the transmission power control bit,

 wherein said transmission power control range changing step changes the transmission power control range depending on the
20 detected change in transmission power in the local station and the detected change in the transmission power control bit.

15. The transmission power control method for radio communications apparatus according to claim 11 or 12,

 wherein said reception power change detecting step has a

reception power comparing step which compares a previous reception power with a current reception power,

wherein a change in reception power is detected based on the comparison results of the reception power comparing step.

5 16. The transmission power control method for radio communications apparatus according to claim 11 or 12,

wherein said reception power change detecting step has a fading pitch detecting step which detects the fading pitch of reception power,

10 wherein a change in reception power is detected based on the detected fading pitch.

17. The transmission power control method for radio communications apparatus according to claim 11 or 12,

15 wherein said reception power change detecting step has a reception power comparing step which compares a previous reception power with a current reception power and a fading pitch detecting step for detecting the fading pitch of reception power,

20 wherein a change in reception power is detected based on the comparison results of the reception power comparing step and the detected fading pitch.

18. A transmission power control method for radio communications apparatus according to claim 11 or 12,

wherein said reception power change detecting step has a reception power threshold comparing step for compares the

reception power with a predetermined threshold,

wherein a change in reception power is detected based on the comparison results of the reception power threshold comparing step

- 5 19. A computer-readable recording medium stored as a program for executing the transmission power control method for the radio communications apparatus according to any one of claims 10 through 18.

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FIG. 1

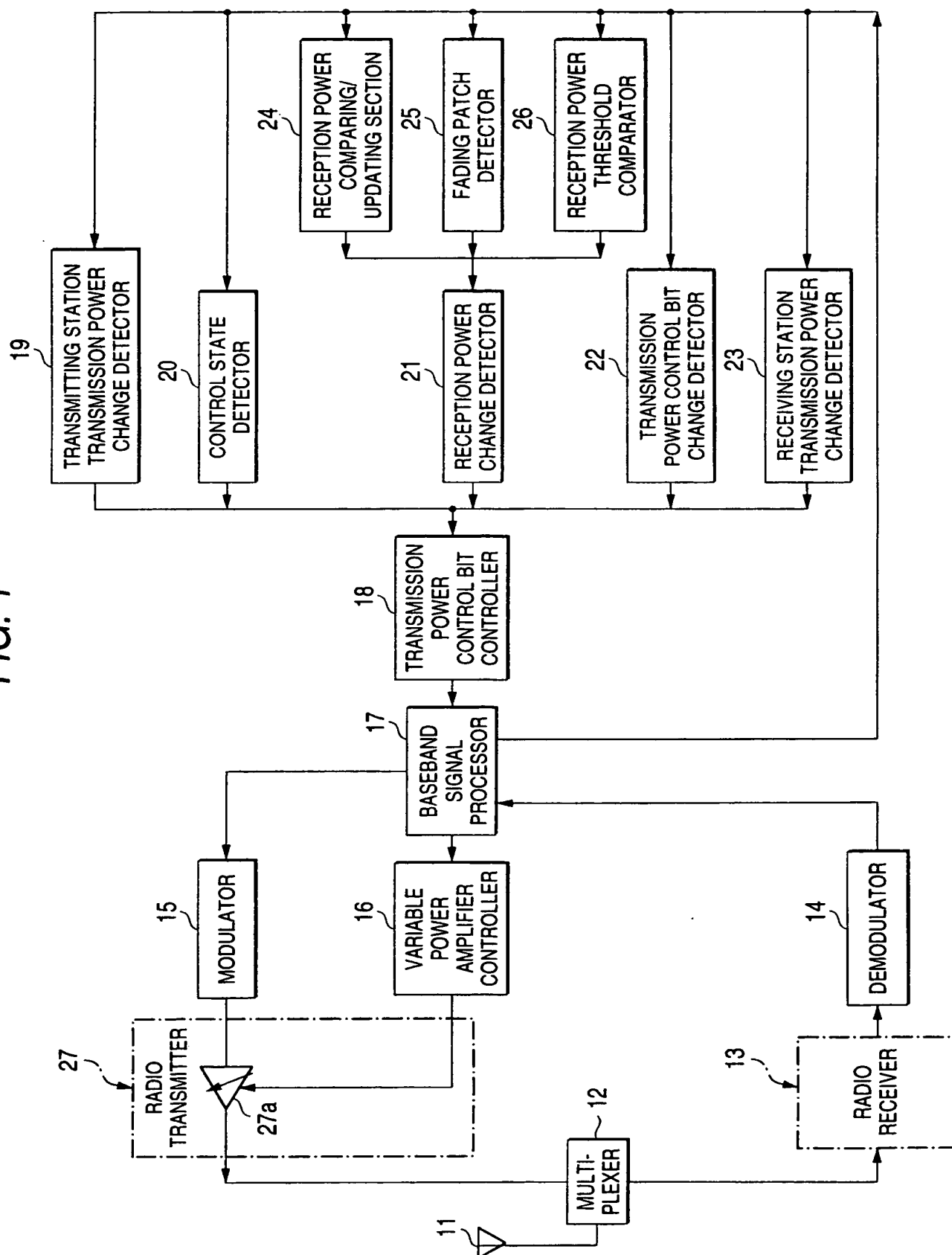


FIG. 2

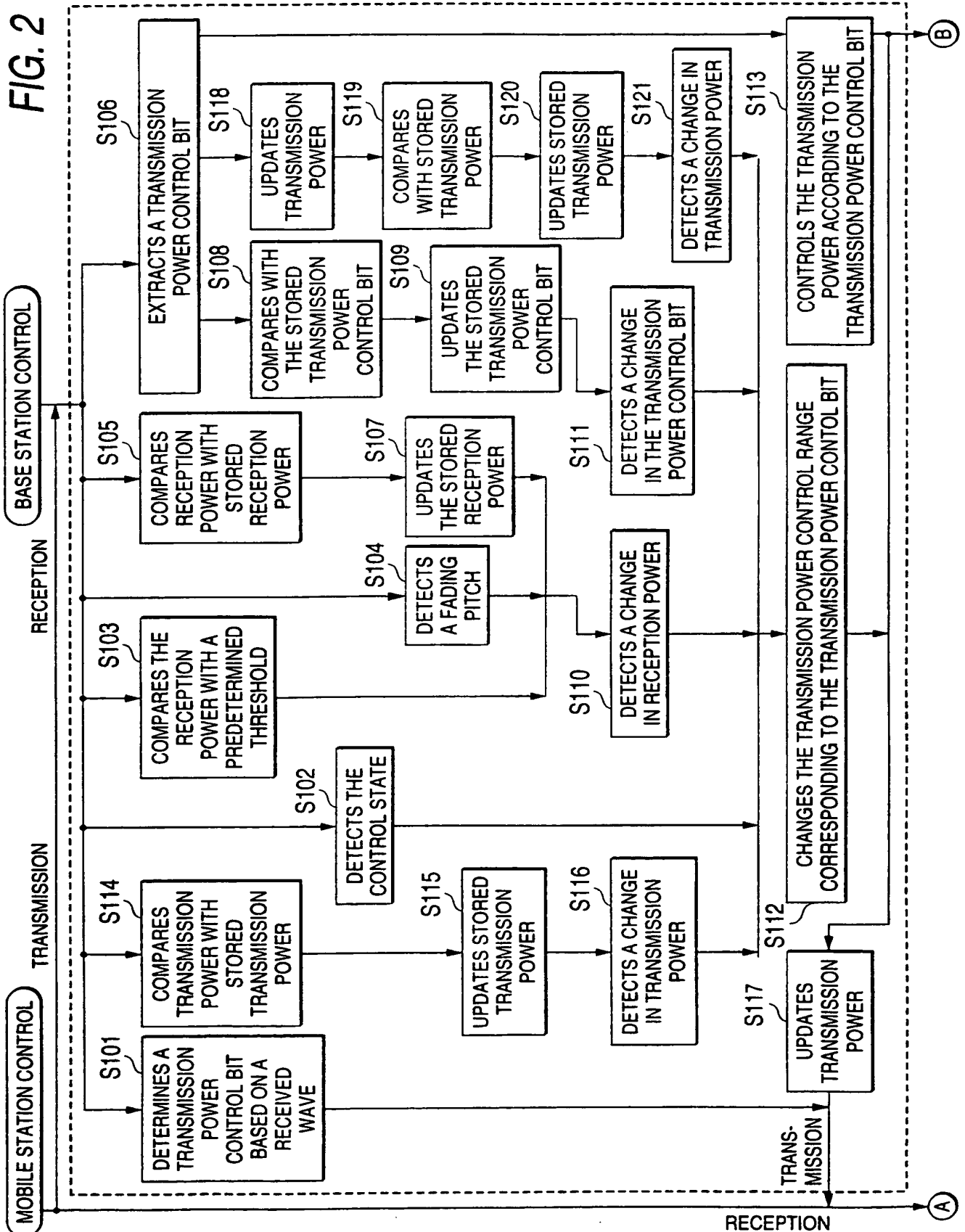
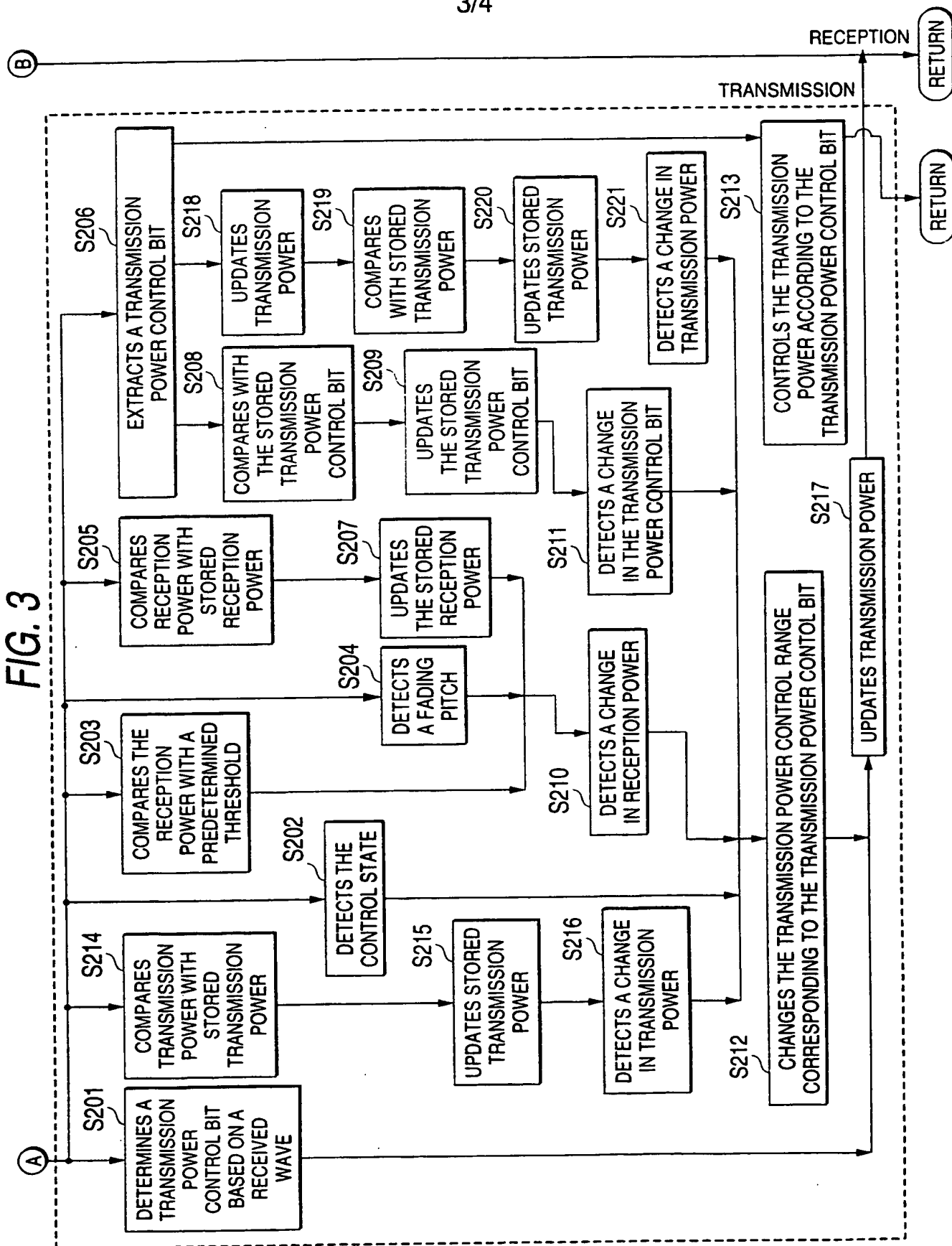
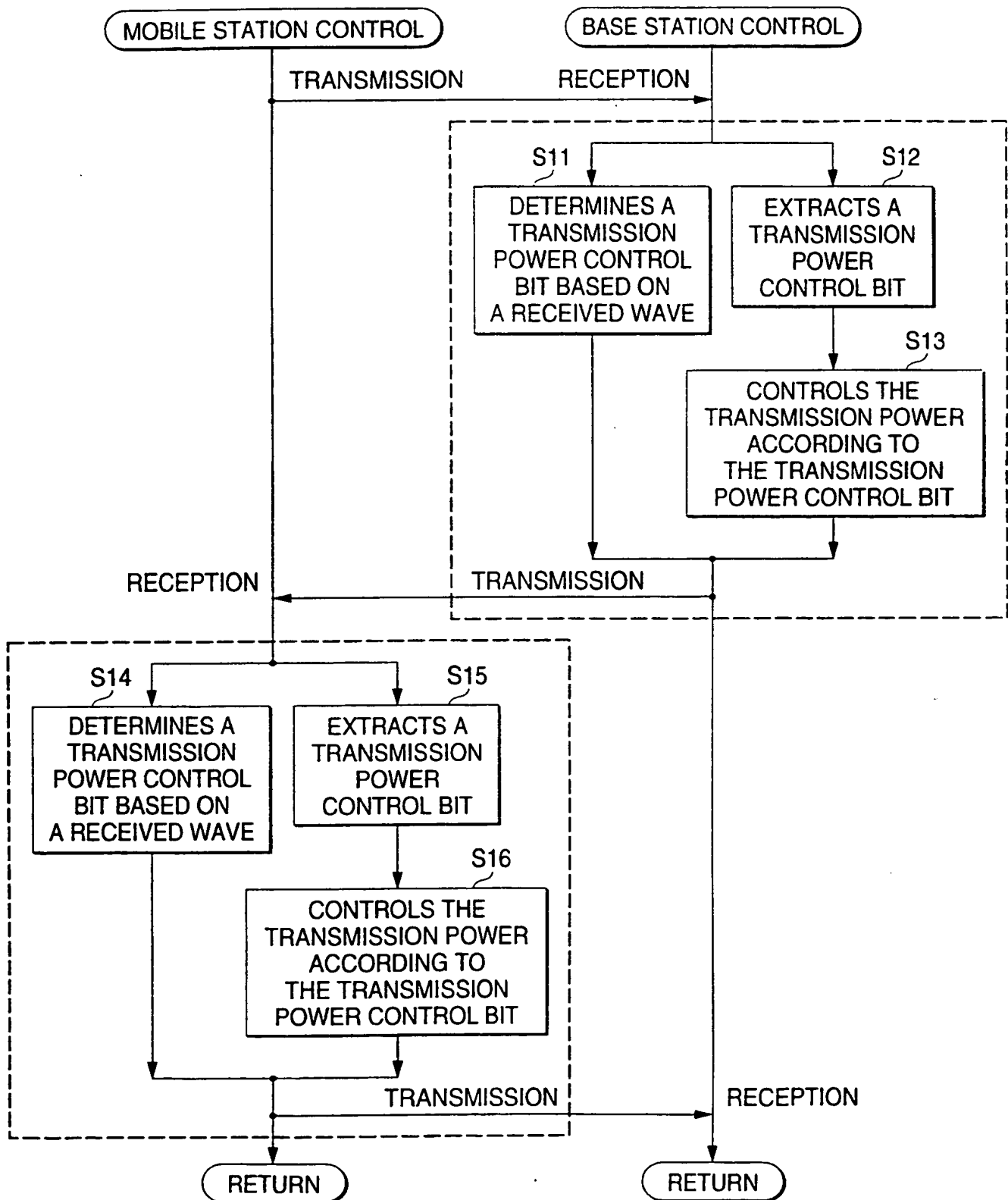


FIG. 3



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FIG. 4



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P-34507	FOR FURTHER ACTION <small>see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</small>	
International application No. PCT/JP 00/ 03568	International filing date (day/month/year) 01/06/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 03/06/1999
Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:



contained in the international application in written form.



filed together with the international application in computer readable form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.



furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.



the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.



the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

3. ☐ **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS TRANSMISSION POWER CONTROL

5. With regard to the abstract,



the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.



as suggested by the applicant.



because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



because this figure better characterizes the invention.

1



None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int'l Application No

PCT/JP 00/03568

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H04B7/005

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 H04B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 09 275373 A (NEC CORP) 21 October 1997 (1997-10-21)	1,2,4,6, 7,9-11, 13,15, 18,19
Y	-& US 5 943 610 A (NEC CORP) 24 August 1999 (1999-08-24) abstract; figures 1,2,4-6 column 2, line 14 -column 3, line 62 column 5, line 52 -column 7, line 54 — -/-	3,5,8, 12,14, 16,17

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 August 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/09/2000

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Authorized officer

Sieben, S

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/JP 00/03568

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y A	EP 0 836 287 A (NIPPON ELECTRIC CO) 15 April 1998 (1998-04-15) abstract; figures 3-5 column 8, line 47 - column 9, line 45	3,12 1,2,10, 11
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Information on patent family members

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